

Town of Arlington

Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes of 12/10/14, 7:15 pm to 9:30 pm, Town Hall 2nd floor conference room.

Minutes submitted by Laura Wiener.

Members and Associates Present: Wayne Chouinard, Seth Federspiel, Melissa Laube, Jeff Maxtutis, Marjorie Moores, Victor Rivas, Scott Smith, Laura Wiener

Missing Members and Associates: Cary Conrad, John Hurd, Howard Muise, Corey Rateau, Jeanette Rebecchi

Members of the Public Present: None

1. Public Comments. None.
2. Administration. Minutes of 11/12/14 meeting were approved unanimously. Correspondence and handouts were reviewed.
3. Town Reports.
 - a. Laura reported that the meeting of the Complete Streets Working Group was postponed until January. The Master Plan Public Hearing is scheduled for January 12, 2014.
 - b. Wayne reported that improvement to the intersection of Mass/Jason/Mill Streets will be finished in the spring. On Mass. Ave. Rebuild project, drainage along both sides was done first and is not quite done, and sidewalks along a couple of blocks were completed. The project is shutting down for the winter. The mast arm at Mass/Mystic/Pleasant St. which fell in a recent storm is being replaced within the next 2 weeks.
4. Lake Street Corridor. Jeff summarized Working Group recommendations for a new signal at the intersection of the bike path and Lake Street, coordinated with the signal at Brooks Ave. It improves the delay in the direction toward Mass. Ave. during pm peak from 550 seconds to 150 seconds, but pushes some of the delay to the Mass. Ave. intersection. Between 2011 and 2014, 4 accidents involving pedestrians or bicycles struck by a vehicle were reported. A signal could improve safety. Lexington has a similar bicycle traffic signal, with a 75% compliance rate of riders and walkers pushing the button for a green signal. Jeff discussed the recommendation with Mike Rademacher who is in favor of it. The estimated cost is \$150,000. Signal at Brooks may need a new controller. Howard and Seth presented the plan to East Arlington Livable Streets, which had some concerns about pedestrians on Lake Street approaching Hardy School in the morning during peak commuting time on the Bikeway. Reducing the delay on Lake Street might draw traffic from Route 16. They questioned if there is a major safety benefit. Scott again suggested a testing of design with a police officer before spending funds on a new signal. Voted unanimously to send recommendation to Board of Selectmen for further discussion.
5. Oakland/Gray/Cliff. Request for a 4 way stop sign. Very sloped. Cliff Street is very sloped and traffic very light. Significant improvements were just made there, including extending the curbs and adding sidewalks and crosswalks. Some of the signage has not been installed. Need to finish the project and then evaluate it. Voted unanimously no action at this time.
6. Pavement Design Matrix. Scott summarized recommendations for bike accommodation. Busy wide streets should get a bike lane. If not enough room, a shared lane marking is recommended. If no parking, then a decent shoulder that can accommodate bikes is recommended. Not meant for local streets. Seth noted that shared lane markings are not very effective at getting people to bike. Cycle track is the most compelling. He would like to see stronger recommendations. Scott suggested that this is a minimum standard. Wayne concurred that this is meant as guidance, and as minimum requirements. Scott suggested the Working Group redraft and bring back to TAC next month.
7. Master Plan. Board went through revised recommendations and made suggestions.
8. Highland/High Haith. Received a request from Deb Savage to look at pedestrian safety at this intersection. Melissa and Marjorie will form a Working Group and initiate a meeting with Deb Savage.
9. Jason Street. Phase 1 Implementation was approved by Selectmen. Looking for concepts and cost estimates for raised crosswalk at Brantwood in front of park. Wayne will resend concepts.

10. Paul Revere Road. Counts are done.
11. Clyde Terrace. Request for sidewalk from resident. Site constraints were identified. Voted unanimously No Action. Wayne will write up recommendation for Selectmen.
12. TAC January Social. January 14, following a short business meeting. Cost to use Masonic Hall is \$100. Each member will contribute \$10, plus bring a pot luck item, as in the past.
13. Adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 9:30.

Meeting Materials:

- Meeting Packet for December: Agenda 12/10/14; Minutes of 11/14/14; Project List dated 12/10/2014; Individual Action List from 12/10/14; Email chain between Jeffrey Maxtutis and Deb Savage Re. High Haith—Highland next steps, last dated Nov. 26, 2014; Email chain from Philip Goff to Scott Smith Re. Lake St traffic light at TAC, last dated December 8, 2014; Memo to Board of Selectmen from TAC Re. Recommendations for Oakland, Gray and Cliff Intersection, dated October 17, 2011.
- Memo from Wayne Chouinard to TAC Re. TAC Update Items, dated December 10, 2014.
- “Lake Street Corridor Results, 5th Presentation to TAC, Recommendations, 12/10/14, Jeff Maxtutis—Working Group”,
- Draft Master Plan Transportation Recommendations (revised 12/8/14)